

# NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
PROPRIETOR AND EDITOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOWERY THEATRE, BOWERY—HAMILTON'S OCEAN CHAIRS.

BROADWAY THEATRE, BROADWAY—JULIUS—BENJAMIN.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, BROADWAY—THE FISHERMAN'S DREAM.

THEATRE, BROADWAY—THE FISHERMAN'S DREAM.

NATIONAL THEATRE, CHAMBERS STREET—HAPPY MAN.

AMERICAN MUSEUM—AMUSEMENT PERFORMANCE EVERY AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

OLYMPIC, BROADWAY—FOLLOWING NEW YORK THEATRE.

New York, Tuesday, September 3, 1880.

Telegraphic Summary.

In the House, there was nothing of much consequence done yesterday, if we except the motion of Mr. Boyd, which prevailed, making the Texas boundary bill the special order for every day, at twelve o'clock, until it is disposed of. This is a praiseworthy movement on the part of the House, and the members, especially Mr. Boyd, are entitled to a great deal of credit for it. It is to be hoped that it will be followed up until that and other kindred measures shall have been disposed of. There was a movement made in regard to the tariff, but it did not succeed. Who could expect that it would? We will be very much surprised, and no doubt so will be the whole country, if the territorial bills, now awaiting action in the House, are thrown aside for the tariff, or any other less important movement. Let the Senate bills be first set at rest, and if the members be not disposed to adjourn when they shall have been settled, they may take up the tariff, or any other subject they please, and debate *ad infinitum*.

We are without any intelligence of the proceedings of the Senate, yesterday, in consequence, we suppose, of the storm having deranged the telegraph wires.

Manufactures at the South.

The down east newspapers, particularly the Boston Daily Advertiser, are much engaged on the subject of Southern cotton mills and manufactures. The object appears to be, in some cases, to show that the South cannot compete with the North in this business, notwithstanding some important advantages which the former possesses over the latter. They acknowledge that cotton costs less than the manufacture of the South one cent per pound less. Taking even this statement to be correct, what would be the result? The mills of the Massachusetts Company, at Lowell, consume six million eight hundred thousand pounds of cotton per annum. One cent per pound saved, on that quantity, would amount to sixty-eight thousand dollars; and, as these mills contain forty-five thousand spindles, the annual saving to a mill of eleven thousand would be about twenty-five thousand dollars per annum. The capital stock of the above company is set down at one million eight hundred thousand dollars; and the above assumed difference is equal to about three and three-quarters per centum per annum on that enormous capital. But one cent per pound is not the real difference. The entire addition to cotton, in transit from the cotton field to Lowell, will average two cents per pound; and its cost at Lowell is one and a half cents higher at the latter place than is paid to the planter at the Southern shipping port. This difference will amount to one hundred and two thousand dollars on the quantity consumed per annum by the above mills, or about five and a half per centum on the entire capital. This is the real advantage which the Southern manufacturer possesses in the cost of cotton, and which, for a mill of eleven thousand spindles, would be about twenty-five thousand dollars per annum.

In the second place, the cost of water power at Lowell, for forty-five thousand spindles, is two hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred dollars, at five dollars per spindle, the present rate. The interest on this sum is thirteen thousand seven hundred and sixteen dollars per annum. Besides these items, those mills, according to their official published statistics, consume fuel, which costs, delivered on the spot, over seventeen thousand dollars per annum. Put all these items together, and we have the aggregate of one hundred and thirty-two thousand dollars difference in the cost of cotton, interest on the cost of water power, and the cost of fuel—or seven and a third per centum on the entire capital of one million eight hundred thousand dollars. Let us now turn to the other side.

Manufacturing sites are abundant at the South, in the midst of, and at short distances from, the cotton fields. At all of them are large quantities of fuel, at extremely low prices; and many of them are directly at, and in close proximity to, immense deposits of the best of mineral coal. This coal can be had at the mills, at the low cost of sixty cents per ton, and at other places the best of wood can be procured at rates equally low. Allowing, then, twenty-two cents of coal per day—a very large allowance—to drive the forty-five thousand spindles in the mills alluded to, and for all other purposes, and we have six thousand tons per annum, the cost of which, at sixty cents per ton, is three thousand six hundred dollars. Steam engines for the purpose, would cost sixty thousand dollars, the interest on which sum would be thirty-six hundred dollars per annum. Engineers, firemen, and oil, would cost ten dollars per day, or three thousand dollars per annum. These several items of cost of steam power, warming the mill, and the like, make up the gross amount of ten thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars per annum, to drive the forty-five thousand spindles. Deduct this amount from one hundred and thirty-two thousand dollars, the aggregate of the cost of water power, fuel, and difference in the cost of cotton, and you leave one hundred and twenty-one thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars per annum, as the actual advantage which the mills of the Massachusetts Company would possess, if situated near the Southern cotton field, compared with their present location. No one can, of course, doubt, all other things being equal, that that gives to the South a tremendous advantage over the North. The down east writers, however, undertake to point out disadvantages to offset this, and more too. The first of the number is a supposed deficiency of capital.

They suppose the entire capital of the South to be already invested in pursuits "yielding a sure and profitable return," and hence, concluding that the Southern people are content to reap smaller profits than those of the North, leave it to be inferred that the former have no capital to spare for other more profitable pursuits; and that they are so well content with small profits, that they would not withdraw capital from those pursuits which yield them small profits, to invest them in enterprises equally sure, and far more lucrative. Whatever else these astute writers may know, they manifest a profound ignorance of Southern character. The Southern loves money, and likes to make large profits, as well as the Northern. How can it be with New England, fifty years ago? She was not overburdened with capital. How did she enter the field of manufacturing enterprise, while its results were a problem yet to be solved? By the withdrawal of capital from other pursuits, and applying it to this, and

eking out the means by a system of credits. Soon the manufacture commenced to furnish its own capital, and to enrich the community beyond all former precedent; and still it continues to do so. Now that the problem has been solved, and the result has proved successful, can any one tell us why the Southern people cannot do the same? The present rapid advances in the business at the South answer the question, and demonstrate the fact, that, with the determination to set the spindle and the loom in motion, the means are always at command.

But it is contended that there is a want of "skill and enterprise." To assert the "want of enterprise," is to beg the question, which future results only can settle. The want of skill is an objection entirely without force. Many pretenders, like pedlars of Yankee notions, have doubtless deceived, cheated, and fleeced Southern men, by constructing cotton mills for them, which, when completed, were worth about as much as so many wheelbarrows; and many managers have treated them about the same. So have New England men, in many instances, suffered from similar impositions. Still, skill is not scarce, and can be had in sufficient abundance to meet all demands, North and South. Does the South lack skill? She can more readily purchase it than New England could fifty years ago, and as readily and cheaply as New England can purchase it now; and as good as New England can now afford; both for the construction and management of mills. There is no difficulty on this score, as every manufacturer and mill builder, North and South, well knows.

The want of proper labor, too, is made a very strong objection, and in connection with this, a good deal is said about the intelligence and industry of the New England girls, and their habits of neatness, contrasted with the supposed ignorance, indolence, and slovenly habits of those of the South. The inference is, that the Southern girls cannot come into successful competition with the girls of New England, because they are not intelligent enough to learn to be good operatives, and have not industry and perseverance enough to follow up the business, nor cleanly habits sufficiently fixed to induce them to keep themselves and their apartments free from filth. How many New England girls have ever been seen at the North, who were industrious enough to work unless they were obliged to? How many, who were more intelligent than Southern girls like opportunities to learn? How many, who were more given to habits of neatness, under similar circumstances, which are connected with the life of the poor Southern girls? The truth is, the poor girls of the South have no employment to stimulate them to industry; and hence, lack the means to procure intelligence, and those incentives to appear well, which are enjoyed in New England. Cotton mills furnish all these; and, as experience has proved, it requires but time, with good management, and good discipline, to render the poor girls of the South, in all respects, equal to those in New England. It comes with an ill grace from Northern manufacturers to decry Southern girls as being unfit for cotton mill operatives for such reasons, while the New England mills swarm with Irish help, men, women and children, among the dirtiest and most ignorant portion of all that call themselves civilized. They are constantly crowding out American operatives; and the consequence is, that Southern manufacturers may procure an abundance of help at the North, as good and cheap as it is there. The experiment has been tried, however, with Southern labor more than once, and with success.

The Graniteville Mill, in South Carolina, which has been cited as an example, we do not take as a test of what may be done at the South, either as it respects the mill itself, its cost, its management, its quantity or quality of products, nor its expenditures. We have only to wait patiently for a few months, when the community may possibly discover something in the form of a cotton mill of a higher character, and altogether a fairer specimen. When we have seen what can be done in the South, we shall learn the true value of the doubts suggested by Massachusetts writers.

These remarks are not speculative—they are truths; and they will be proved such by actual practical results a thousand times more satisfactory than all the evidences contained in the reports of the Secretary of the Treasury, with the many comments on the subject. Even now, coarse goods can be manufactured at the South at a cost per yard, for labor, not exceeding that paid in New England; and the advantages in difference of expenditure noted above, will constitute a protection that will enable the South to defy all competition.

These down east writers speak very feelingly of Northern mill builders, who, to serve their own interests, as they insinuate, humbug the people of the South. It might be well for them, also, to inform the public whether or not there is any selfish object to be advanced by such remarks. The Boston Advertiser's correspondent is evidently one of the same breed of bantlings hatched of late, to warn the people of the South to beware of the manufacturing business, lest an active competition should spring up against the manufacturers of New England, more to be dreaded by them than that of our European competitors. Probably that writer himself may be in possession of some nominal thousands of manufacturing stock, and is fearful that a brisk competition at the South may curtail the fair proportions of his darling shares, and reduce them to the mere effigies of their former selves. But be this as it may, his warnings are useless. The competition must and will come, and that quickly. The manufacture of coarse goods will be transferred to the Southern country, and in time that of the finer descriptions will follow. The South is destined to become the seat of the cotton manufactures of the United States, and all the efforts of New England cannot prevent it. There has been apathy in the South on the subject in times past, and the spirit of enterprise has slumbered. But a change has taken place—the race of improvement has commenced. The people of the South are no longer to be terrified by the cry of wolf, so often set up and reiterated by their New England friends. The more loudly and frequently that cry is set up, the more will the Southern people be encouraged to proceed; for they know it is entirely deceptive, and intended only to keep them out of the field, to afford others the opportunity to reap the harvest.

Such being the inevitable tendency of things at the South, we repeat what we have often said, that the Northern States have driven their Southern brethren into this course of manufacturing for themselves, and we have reason to believe that the South will be prepared to test the character of Northern policies, by applying the only argument that can reach the minds of many men—that argument, the test of the results. The immense amount of talent will demand active exertion, and the emigration to the Southward will soon be felt by the States, which have hitherto events that will assuredly be deplored.

THE COMMON COUNCIL—THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.—The regular report of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department was, we are informed, transmitted to the Common Council last evening, but instead of that body ordering it to be printed, as is usually the case, they adjourned without taking any action upon it whatever. We are at a loss to conceive why such a course should be pursued on this occasion, more than any other. The report of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department is a document looked to by our insurance companies and the public generally, with a great deal of interest, and it is desirable that they should be made acquainted with its contents as soon as possible. Inasmuch as the city government will have a session, in pursuance of the new city charter, every day, until the business before them is disposed of, we trust that they will pay some attention to this matter this evening. It is very desirable that this important document should be laid before the public at the earliest moment.

Police Intelligence.

THE FUGITIVE FRANKS.—The two Frenchmen, and the woman, arrested on board the ship *St. Nicholas*, on Saturday last, for the extensive robbery committed by them in Paris, are still confined in the Tombs. One of the least guilty party will possibly be made a witness of, in order to convict the others. The woman possesses the property that will be chosen for her purpose.

Charge of Rob